

Diploma thesis “Substate nationalism in the EU. Scotland and the Basque Country“ deals with Scottish and Basque substate nationalism and their secessionist objectives. Five for nationalism crucial areas have been chosen, analysed for each of the two nationalisms, and compared. These areas are historical background, language, will to form a nation, economy and political base of nationalism. Scottish and Basque nationalisms are very different in their essence, the first being civic, pacifist and inclusive, while the second is based on ethnic premises in a polarized society strained by violence. However, both nationalisms have strong desire to gain independence and also various similarities in some of the factors can be found. The second part of the thesis deals with decentralization and europeization of the two nation states of Spain and the UK in respect to their nationalists. Could the new European and domestic opportunity structures satisfy the Basque and the Scottish nationalists, or will these changes work as an additional incentive for their independence struggles?